PATENT

Art Unit:

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE AS DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE

Applicants:

Edmondson, et al.

Int. Appln. No:

PCT/US2004/017111

Int. Filing Date:

2 June 2004

US Appln. No.:

To Be Assigned

Case No.: 21431P

Filed:

Concurrently Herewith

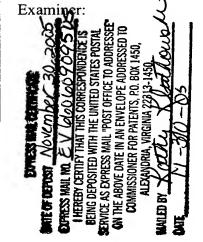
For:

FUSED INDOLES AS DIPEPTIDYL PEPTIDASE

INHIBITORS FOR THE TREATMENT OR

PREVENTION OF DIABETES

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

The above-identified case is a PCT application entering thé US National Phase under 35 U.S.C. § 371 and Article 39(1)(a) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty. Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments prior to prosecution of the subject application. Any additional fees associated with this Amendment may be charged to Merck Deposit Account No. 13-2755.

Please amend this application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification are reflected on page 2 of this response.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected on page 3 of this response. Remarks begin on page 9 of this response.